



News Release

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**IDWR ISSUES NOTICE OF VIOLATION TO LDS CHURCH
FOR IRRIGATING WITHOUT VALID WATER RIGHT**

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An LDS Church in Meridian has been ordered by State water managers to stop illegally diverting water to irrigate without a valid water right to do so, the Department of Water Resources said today.

The order was issued August 19 and required that the Greenhill LDS Church on the corner of Franklin and South Locust Grove immediately stop irrigating with the water. It also seeks a civil penalty of \$400 from the church.

State water right agents visited the site and found that water was being pumped from an existing well and being used to irrigate two acres of grass and landscaping at the church. No valid water right exists which would allow the water to be used for irrigation.

Church officials have two weeks to meet with IDWR to discuss the violation. Under Idaho Code, use of water without a valid water right can result in civil penalties of \$300 per acre.

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